UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/PRST/1995/63
22 December 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3615th meeting of the Security Council, held on 22 December 1995 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Croatia", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council takes note of the report of the Secretary-General (S/1995/1051) of 21 December 1995, which it has just received.

"The Security Council, as a matter of urgency, expresses its grave concern that, according to information in that report, the Government of the Republic of Croatia has ignored the call of the Council in the statement of its President of 3 October 1995 (S/PRST/1995/49) that it lift any time-limits placed on the return of refugees to reclaim their property. The requirement that owners must reclaim their property by 27 December 1995 constitutes a virtually insurmountable obstacle for most Serb refugees.

"The Security Council strongly demands that the Government of the Republic of Croatia lift immediately any time-limits placed on the return of refugees to reclaim their property.

"The Security Council shall continue its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General."

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